



FAIRFAX COUNTY PARK AUTHORITY

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For Immediate Release

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New Turf Field Completion Nears at Sandburg Middle School

Crowds gathered last July for groundbreaking ceremonies at Carl Sandburg Middle School in the Mount Vernon District to celebrate the construction start of a synthetic turf field conversion project. The project marked the first cooperative venture in field conversion between the Fairfax County Public Schools and the Fairfax County Park Authority. The field is now completed and ribbon cutting ceremonies are slated for Monday, October 8, 2007 at 11 a.m. – Columbus Day.

The field at Carl Sandburg Middle School will support both school and community use. The field will primarily serve Fort Hunt Youth Athletic Association teams. The construction costs for this project are approximately \$735,000 and are funded primarily through the 2006 Park Bond program. This is one of approximately one dozen fields countywide to be converted to synthetic turf in an effort to address chronic rectangular field shortages.

Synthetic turf fields provide a high quality playing surface that can be utilized year-round. Weather has minimal impact on field playability and lighted synthetic turf fields provide an estimated 62% greater field capacity.

Carl Sandburg Middle School is located at 8428 Fort Hunt Road in Alexandria. For more information contact the Public Information Office at 703-324-8662.

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